# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In re:	Chapter 11
BIG LOTS, INC., et al.,	Case No. 24-11967 (JKS)
Debtors. <sup>1</sup>	(Jointly Administered)

# NOTICE OF PROPOSED ASSUMPTION AND ASSIGNMENT OF EXECUTORY CONTRACTS OR UNEXPIRED LEASES AND CURE AMOUNTS

Re: D.I. 612

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "**Debtors**") each filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the "**Bankruptcy Code**") in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "**Court**") on September 9, 2024.

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that, on September 9, 2024, the Debtors filed a motion (the "**Motion**") with the Court seeking entry of an order, among other things, approving (a) procedures for the solicitation of bids in connection with the Sale Transaction and the Auction (the "**Bidding Procedures**"),<sup>2</sup> (b) the form and manner of notice related to the Sale Transaction, and (c) procedures for the assumption and assignment of Contracts and Leases in connection with the Sale Transaction (the "**Assumption and Assignment Procedures**").

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that, on October 25, 2024, the Court entered an order (D.I. 612) (the "**Bidding Procedures Order**") approving, among other things, the Bidding Procedures, which establish the key dates and times related to the Sale Transaction, the Auction, and the Assumption and Assignment Procedures.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that, on October 30, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. (prevailing Eastern Time), the Debtors held an Auction at the offices of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, 450 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The debtors and debtors in possession in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of their respective employer identification numbers, are as follows: Great Basin, LLC (6158); Big Lots, Inc. (9097); Big Lots Management, LLC (7948); Consolidated Property Holdings, LLC (0984); Broyhill LLC (7868); Big Lots Stores - PNS, LLC (5262); Big Lots Stores, LLC (6811); BLBO Tenant, LLC (0552); Big Lots Stores - CSR, LLC (6182); CSC Distribution LLC (8785); Closeout Distribution, LLC (0309); Durant DC, LLC (2033); AVDC, LLC (3400); GAFDC LLC (8673); PAFDC LLC (2377); WAFDC, LLC (6163); INFDC, LLC (2820); Big Lots eCommerce LLC (9612); and Big Lots F&S, LLC (3277). The address of the debtors' corporate headquarters is 4900 E. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus, OH 43081.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion or the Bidding Procedures, as applicable.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that, upon the closing of the Sale Transaction, the Debtors intend to assume and assign to the Successful Bidder(s) the Proposed Assumed Contracts. A schedule listing the Proposed Assumed Contracts (the "Proposed Assumed Contracts Schedule") is attached hereto and may also be accessed free of charge on the Debtors' case information website located at https://www.cases.ra.kroll.com/BigLots or can be requested by email at BigLotsInfo@ra.kroll.com. In addition, the amount necessary to cure any prepetition defaults thereunder (the "Cure Costs"), if any, necessary for the assumption and assignment of the Proposed Assumed Contracts are set forth on the Proposed Assumed Contracts Schedule. Each Cure Cost listed on the Proposed Assumed Contracts Schedule represents all liabilities of any nature of the Debtors arising under an Assumed Contract or Assumed Lease prior to the Petition Date, whether known or unknown, whether due or to become due, whether accrued, absolute, contingent, or otherwise, so long as such liabilities arise out of or relate to events occurring prior to the Petition Date. Pursuant to the Assumption and Assignment Procedures, all Assumption and Assignment Objections relating to a proposed Cure Cost (a "Cure Objection") must have been filed and served no later than November 6, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern **Time**), and a Counterparty's failure to timely and properly file and serve its Cure Objection shall be (a) deemed to have consented to the Cure Costs (if any) set forth on the Potential Assumed Contracts Schedule (or a Supplemental Assumed Contracts Schedule, if applicable) and (b) forever barred from asserting any Cure Objection against the Debtors, the Successful Bidder, or the property of any such parties relating to such Counterparty's Assumed Contract(s) or Assumed Lease(s).

# YOU ARE RECEIVING THIS NOTICE BECAUSE YOU HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A COUNTERPARTY TO A PROPOSED ASSUMED CONTRACT.

Under the terms of the Assumption and Assignment Procedures, (a) at or prior to the closing of a Sale Transaction, the Successful Bidder(s) may elect, in their sole and absolute discretion, to (i) exclude any Contract or Lease on the Proposed Assumed Contracts Schedule (as amended or supplemented) (in which case it shall become an Excluded Contract or Excluded Lease, as applicable) or (ii) include on the Proposed Assumed Contracts Schedule any Contract or Lease listed on the Potential Assumed Contracts Schedule (as amended or supplemented), by providing to the Debtors written notice of its election to exclude or include such Contract or Lease, as applicable, (b) if the Debtors or the Successful Bidder(s) identify during the pendency of the Chapter 11 Cases (before or after the closing of the applicable Sale Transaction) any Contract or Lease that is not listed on the Proposed Assumed Contracts Schedule, and such Contract or Lease has not been rejected by the Debtors, such Successful Bidder(s) may, in their sole and absolute discretion, elect by written notice to the Debtors to treat such Contract or Lease as an Assumed Contract or Assumed Lease, as applicable, and the Debtors shall seek to assume and assign such Assumed Contract or Assumed Lease in accordance with the Assumption and Assignment Procedures, and (c) following the Auction, the Debtors may, in accordance with the applicable purchase agreement, or as otherwise agreed by the Debtors and the Successful Bidder(s), at any time before the closing of the Sale Transaction, modify the previously stated Cure Costs associated with any Proposed Assumed Contract in accordance with the Assumption and Assignment Procedures. The Assumption and Assignment Procedures further provide that any Counterparty whose previously-stated Cure Cost is modified will receive notice thereof and an opportunity to file a Supplemental Assumption and Assignment Objection. The assumption and assignment of the Contracts and Leases on the Proposed Assumed Contracts Schedule is not guaranteed

and is subject to approval by the Court and the Debtors' or Successful Bidder's right to remove an Assumed Contract or Assumed Lease from the Proposed Assumed Contracts Schedule.

### **Obtaining Additional Information**

Copies of the Motion and the Bidding Procedures Order, as well as all related exhibits (including the Bidding Procedures) and all other documents filed with the Court, are available free of charge on the Debtors' case information website located at <a href="https://www.cases.ra.kroll.com/BigLots">https://www.cases.ra.kroll.com/BigLots</a> or can be requested by email at BigLotsInfo@ra.kroll.com.

### **Filing Objections**

Pursuant to the Assumption and Assignment Procedures, objections to the proposed assumption and assignment of an Assumed Contract or Assumed Lease (an "Assumption and Assignment Objection") with respect to the ability of a Successful Bidder to provide adequate assurance of future performance must (a) be in writing, (b) comply with the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the Local Rules, (c) state, with specificity, the legal and factual bases thereof (including, to the extent modified from the previously stated amount, the Cure Costs), (d) by no later than November 6, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time) (the "Assumption and Assignment Objection Deadline"), (i) be filed with the Court and (ii) be served on (1) counsel to the Debtors, (y) Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, 450 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10017, Attn: Brian M. Resnick, Esq., Adam L. Shpeen, Esq., Stephen D. Piraino, Esq., Jonah A. Peppiatt, Esq., and Ethan Stern, Esq. (notice.biglots@davispolk.com) and (z) Morris, Nichols, Arsht & Tunnell LLP, 1201 N. Market Street, 16th Floor, Wilmington, DE 19801, Attn: Robert J. Dehney, Sr., Esq., Andrew R. Remming, Esq., Daniel B. Butz, Esq., Tamara K. Mann, Esq., and Casey B. Sawyer, Esq. (biglots.mnat@morrisnichols.com), (2) counsel to the ABL Agent, (y) Choate, Hall & Stewart LLP, Two International Place, Boston, MA 02110, Attn: John F. Ventola, Esq. (iventola@choate.com), Jonathan D. Marshall, Esq. (imarshall@choate.com) and (z) Blank Rome LLP, 1201 N. Market Street, Suite 800, Wilmington, DE 19801, Attn: Regina Stango (regina.kelbon@blankrome.com) and Stanley Tarr. Kelbon, Esq. Esq. (stanley.tarr@blankrome.com), (3) counsel to the Term Agent, (y) Otterbourg P.C., 230 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10169, Attn: Chad B. Simon, Esq. (CSimon@otterbourg.com), James V. (JDrew@otterbourg.com), and Sarah L. Hautzinger, Drew, Esq. (shautzinger@otterbourg.com) and (z) Richards, Layton & Finger, P.A., 920 N. King Street, Wilmington, DE 19801, Attn: John H. Knight, Esq. (knight@rlf.com), (4) proposed counsel to the Committee, (y) McDermott Will & Emery LLP, One Vanderbilt Avenue, New York, NY 10017, Attn: Darren Azman, Esq. (dazman@mwe.com) and Kristin G. Going, Esq. (kgoing@mwe.com), and (z) Cole Schotz P.C., 500 Delaware Avenue, Suite 1410, Wilmington, DE 19801, Attn: Justin (jalberto@coleschotz.com) Stacy Newman, Alberto, Esq. and L. (snewman@coleschotz.com), (5) counsel to the Stalking Horse Bidder, Kirkland & Ellis LLP, 601 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York 10022, Attn: Christopher Marcus, P.C. (cmarcus@kirkland.com), Douglas A. Ryder, P.C. (douglas.ryder@kirkland.com), and Nicholas M. Adzima (nicholas.adzima@kirkland.com), and (6) the U.S. Trustee, Caleb Boggs Federal Building, 844 King Street, Suite 2207, Lockbox 35, Wilmington, Delaware 19801. Attn: Linda J. Casey (linda.casey@usdoj.gov) (collectively, the "Objection Notice Parties").

Objections to the Sale Order, the conduct of the Auction, or the Sale Transaction, if any, must (a) be in writing, (b) state, with specificity, the legal and factual bases thereof, (c) comply with the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the Local Rules, and (d) by no later than **November 6, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.** (prevailing Eastern Time) (the "Sale Objection Deadline") be (i) filed with the Court and (ii) served on the Objection Notice Parties.

A hearing to consider the approval of the proposed Sale Transaction(s) will be held before the Court on **November 12, 2024 at 1:30 p.m.** (**prevailing Eastern Time**) or such other date as determined by the Court.

### **CONSEQUENCES OF FAILING TO TIMELY ASSERT AN OBJECTION**

Any Counterparty to an Assumed Contract or Assumed Lease who fails to timely make an objection to the proposed assumption and assignment of such Assumed Contract or Assumed Lease, the Debtors' proposed Cure Costs or the ability of the Successful Bidder to provide adequate assurance of future performance on or before the Assumption and Assignment Objection Deadline in accordance with the Assumption and Assignment Procedures, the Bidding Procedures Order, and this Notice (or in the case of a Supplemental Assumption and Assignment Objection, by 14 days from the date of service of such Supplemental Assumption and Assignment Notice) shall be deemed to have consented to the assumption and assignment of such Assumed Contract or Assumed Lease, including with respect to the ability of the Successful Bidder(s) to provide adequate assurance of future performance and the Debtors' proposed Cure Costs, to the extent modified from the previously stated amount, and shall be forever barred from asserting any objection or claims against the Debtors, the Successful Bidder(s), or the property of any such parties relating to the assumption and assignment of such Assumed Contract or Assumed Lease (including asserting additional Cure Costs with respect to such Assumed Contract or Assumed Lease). Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in such Assumed Contract or Assumed Lease, or any other document, the Cure Costs set forth on the Proposed Assumed Contracts Schedule (as amended or supplemented) shall be controlling and will be the only amount necessary to cure outstanding defaults under the applicable Assumed Contract or Assumed Lease under section 365(b) of the Bankruptcy Code arising out of or related to any events occurring prior to the Petition Date, whether known or unknown, whether due or to become due, whether accrued, absolute, contingent, or otherwise, so long as such liabilities arise out of or relate to events occurring prior to the Petition Date.

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Dated: October 31, 2024

Wilmington, Delaware

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